

GREENBRAE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION (GPOA)
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2007 ANNUAL REPORT

At the Annual Meeting of the GPOA, held Tuesday evening, March 20, 2007 in the Bacich Elementary Library, the following Officers/Directors were nominated and elected to serve through the Spring of 2008:

Brendan Fogarty, President
Michael Hillman, Director (Immediate Past President)
Chalayne Gallinatti, Director
Scott Sherman, Director
Paul Schwartz, Director

Various local leaders spoke to the assembled Greenbrae residents. A summary of the presentations follows:

Hal Brown, Marin County Supervisor, District 2, reported:

- 1) The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) Highway 101/I-580 Greenbrae Corridor Improvement Project: TAM is developing solutions for the crowded Greenbrae Corridor and adjacent streets, with the goal of providing safe and efficient travel for all modes of transportation. TAM is holding public workshops and wants our input. Check out www.tam.ca.gov for the most recent information and meeting invitations, or to submit questions or comments. Or contact Bill Whitney at (415) 507-2810 or BWhitney@co.marin.ca.us.
- 2) The Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program: Marin County, Larkspur, Ross, San Anselmo, and Fairfax are implementing immediate flood control protection solutions such as creek clearing, improved emergency notification, improved stream gauging and weather monitoring, and coordination of citizen volunteer groups. Engineers have created a list of 8 solutions to avoid a recurrence of the flooding of 15 months ago. Funding for further studies and project costs will be put to a vote in May 2007. For a plethora of information on this subject, please visit www.rossvalleywatershed.org.
- 3) On November 14, 2006, the Marin County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance adopting a Second Unit Amnesty Program for the period from January 1, 2007, to December 31, 2007. This program will offer incentives for property owner/applicants to register existing unpermitted units by demonstrating safe and habitable dwelling conditions. For details, go to

www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/Main/comdev/CURRENT/second_unit_amnesty.cfm; and

4) This Spring, we will see two temporary "speed cushions" on Manor Drive. The County will install them for a 90-day pilot period. If effective and accepted, they will become permanent. Hal Brown sent Greenbrae residents a letter about this issue a few months ago. (More information appears below at the end of the "Notices" section; the speed cushions were installed the week of April 23, 2007.)

Several officials from Larkspur, including Mayor Ron Arlas, Council Member Larry Chu, City Manager Jean Bonander, and Twin Cities Police Captain Todd Cusimano combined to report on these issues:

- 1) Larkspur is setting up a Disaster Council, to coordinate our area's response in the event of natural or man-made disasters;
- 2) The Larkspur City Council opposes "SMART" (the train) because in the council's view, the cost far outweighs the benefits. For the same reason, the Larkspur City Council opposes the Cal Park Tunnel project, which proposes to open the tunnel between San Rafael and the Marin Airport for mixed modes of transportation, including the proposed train, bicycles, and pedestrians;
- 3) The County and Larkspur are against any San Quentin Prison expansion. In addition, Larkspur is concerned about the almost 200 new living units near San Quentin and the potential impact they will have on East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. The Council is monitoring this and considering solutions; and
- 4) The Twin Cities Police Department desperately needs a new permanent station at its Piper Park location on Doherty Drive. Captain Cusimano made an extensive presentation showing the cramped, inadequate current facility. The Larkspur representatives urged those of us with votes to support funding of this capital project in a vote in early 2008.

Following Larkspur's comments, and after the vote for the 2007-2008 Board, the floor was opened for comments from Greenbrae residents on neighborhood issues, which were the following:

- 1) Graffiti continually appears on the concrete retaining wall across from Marin Catholic H.S. This has been cleaned and re-cleaned. A resident volunteered to follow up with the County for a potential solution;
- 2) The landscaping of the Via La Cumbre center divide is perpetually vexing the adjacent residents. Irrigation and slope issues persist. Director Scott Sherman said that he would re-address this issue;

- 3) A rogue water leak on Corte Comoda was identified by a nearby resident. Director Mike Hillman suggested that the water should be tested and traced to its source, before there could be any remedy;
- 4) The hydro-seeding results (wildflowers everywhere) were roundly complimented by a homeowner;
- 5) We were reminded that four new owl boxes are being installed in median islands to reduce the rodent population in Greenbrae. For information, go to www.hungryowl.org; and
- 6) One resident asked that everyone be asked to keep garbage and recycling cans and bins behind fences, in garages, or otherwise out of sight, except of course on collection days. This is a reasonable, common courtesy request.

In the absence of a Treasurer on the Board of Directors, Mike Hillman reported that as of 12/31/06, the GPOA had a yearly gain of \$2,582.05, versus a 2005 gain of \$1,007.92. Membership dues were up approximately \$8,000, or by about 33%. Expenses for 2006 were up about \$6,500, or by about 28%. Total Liabilities & Equity as of 12/31/06 were \$52,734.35 versus \$50,152.30 as of 12/31/05, a change of 5.2%. A copy of the profit & loss statements and balance sheets may be requested at info@greenbrae.org.

NOTICES

- 1) After 6 years of leading the GPOA, Mike Hillman has passed the baton. Many kudos to Mike for his tireless work on our behalf! And thanks for staying on board to keep us moving in the right direction.
- 2) PLEASE be sure to follow the "GPOA Mailing List" link at www.greenbrae.org and subscribe to our new list server. We'll be able to save thousands per year in mailing costs with adequate participation.
- 3) Your Annual Spring Clean-Up Coupon was included in the March 2007 mailing. It is valid June 1, 2007 through September 1, 2007, for one load. Again, this is a vast improvement over the past one-weekend deals.
- 4) If you haven't sent in your Annual Voluntary Dues remittance, we'll appreciate your doing so at your earliest convenience. We've included another remittance card and envelope in this mailing in case you've misplaced the last one. (We are *not* asking for a second payment; please disregard the request if you have sent yours in. Thanks!)

- 5) Susan Van Liere of Pacific Union has generously offered to revive the annual picnic at Greenbrae School Park, potentially in late August or early September. It's a great time, so look forward to that (and of course, please volunteer a few hours.) We'll keep you updated.
- 6) Emergency and disaster preparedness (see the link to "Community Emergency Response Training" or C.E.R.T at www.greenbrae.org) is a hot topic. We hope to have trained coordinators on each block in the not-too-distant future. Please think about attending the valuable two-day training session presented by local fire departments at COM.
- 7) The Larkspur Centennial arrives on March 8, 2008. To help plan that event, or to be involved in any way, contact Kathy Hartzell at khartzell@larkspurcityhall.org or 924-4740.
- 8) For several years, excessive speeding has been a problem on Manor Road—a road used by many school children and other pedestrians and bikers. For over 2 years, the Manor Road Safety Coalition (MRSC) has worked with the Dept. of Public Works and the Kentfield Fire Dept. to develop a solution that will slow down speeding cars but have minimal impact on emergency response vehicles. As a result, for a trial period, Manor Road has installed speed cushions—a shorter and more flexible speed hump—hoping to meet these objectives. The speed cushions were installed at the end of April 2007. Greenbrae residents should contact Lisa Mango of MRSC at 925-4367 with any questions in this regard.

PLEASE GET INVOLVED. WE NEED A TREASURER AND VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE. CONTACT THE GPOA AT info@greenbrae.org. HERE'S TO A GREAT YEAR IN GREENBRAE!